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Commission on Narcotic Drugs
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Item 10 (a) of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of the international drug control treaties: challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations

Thailand: draft resolution

Preventing the diversion of ketamine from legal sources and from licit medical use

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session[1] and the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[2]

Recalling also its resolution 49/6 of 17 March 2006, in which it called upon Member States to pay particular attention to the emerging problem of widespread abuse of and trafficking in ketamine and encouraged Member States to consider adopting a system of import and export certificates for use by their government agencies,

Recalling further its resolutions 52/8 of 20 March 2009 and 53/7 of 12 March 2010, in which it expressed concern for the scale of the problem of the use of substances, including ketamine, to commit drug-facilitated sexual assault ("date rape"),

* E/CN.7/2014/1.

[1] General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

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Recognizing that, in recent years, the International Narcotics Control Board has repeatedly drawn the attention of Member States to the abuse and international trafficking, as well as seizures, of ketamine,

Recognizing also that, in its report for 2012, the International Narcotics Control Board reaffirmed the widespread abuse of ketamine, particularly among youth, in East and South-East Asia and in the Americas, the critical volume of ketamine seized in Asia, and the trafficking in ketamine in all regions of the world,[3] and welcoming the timely agreement among members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations during the thirty-fourth Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters, held in Yangon, regarding the increasing demand for international control of ketamine,

Deeply concerned by the threat to the well-being of people and society posed by the diversion of ketamine for illicit use and by the rising trend in the abuse of and trafficking in that substance,

Noting the critical review of ketamine issues by the World Health Organization in 2012, in which the Organization affirmed that, owing to the difficulty of the chemical synthesis of ketamine, that substance is obtained mostly through diversion of legal commercial sources, and noting also that the diversion of legitimate sources provides significant amounts of ketamine to the illicit market,[4]

Acknowledging that the Internet serves as a key source for the supply of new psychotropic substances, including ketamine,

Alarmed by the potential opportunities for transnational organized criminal groups to profit from the non-medical sale and illicit domestic and international distribution of ketamine,

Reaffirming its resolution 50/3 of 16 March 2007, in which it encouraged Member States to consider adopting a system of precautionary measures for use by their government agencies to facilitate the timely detection of the diversion of ketamine,

Mindful of the licit use of ketamine as an anaesthetic in both human and veterinary medicine, and noting that, in many countries, when compressed oxygen is not available, ketamine is the only means of providing anaesthesia,

1. *Invites* Member States to pay increasing attention to the problem of the diversion of ketamine from licit medical use, to monitor emerging trends in the non-medical distribution and abuse of ketamine and to assess the extent of this problem within their own national borders;

2. *Invites* Member States that have not yet done so to consider controlling the use of ketamine by placing it on a list of substances controlled under their national legislation;

3. *Urges* Member States to adopt appropriate comprehensive measures aimed at detecting and countering the diversion and smuggling of ketamine,

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[3] *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2012* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XI.1), paras. 316-322.

[4] *Ketamine Critical Review Report* (report of the World Health Organization Expert Committee on Drug Dependence, Thirty-fifth Meeting, 4-8 June 2012), sect. 16.

including illegal trafficking through the Internet, in accordance with national legislation;

4. *Encourages* Member States to consider adopting an import and export authorization system for licit international trade in ketamine;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility, to share information and to cooperate at the bilateral, regional and international levels with a view to detecting and controlling the diversion of ketamine from the licit market, in particular by strengthening cooperation in law enforcement activities and by fostering cooperation between the relevant national health authorities;

6. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to submit to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.